

PATENT APPLICATION*IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE*

*Group*  
*Art Unit:* Unknown  
  
*Attorney*  
*Docket No.:* 133697-0028  
  
*Applicant:* Xuejun CHEN  
  
*Invention:* A METHOD FOR SEPARATING,  
EXTRACTING AND PURIFYING POLY-  
 $\beta$ -HYDROXYALKANOATES (PHAs)  
DIRECTLY FROM BACTERIAL  
FERMENTATION BROTH  
  
*Serial No:* Unknown  
  
*Filing Date:* June 19, 2006  
  
*Examiner:* Unknown

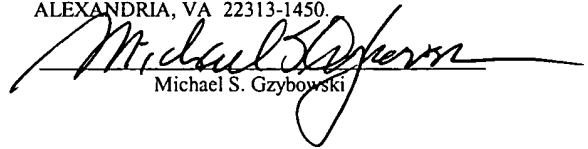
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 Michael S. Gzybowski

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are found on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.